

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-4, 6-12, 15-18, 23-34 and 36-38 remain pending in this application. Claims 14 and 35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 14, 35, 37 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hofstee et al (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0074668). Claims 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chan et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,849,940). Claims 35, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Chan et al.

Without admitting to the propriety of these rejections, Applicants have amended the claims to be in condition for allowance so as to expedite the issuance of subject matter indicated as being allowable. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if any further changes are required, in order to expedite prosecution.

Appl. No. 10/733,581
Amendment dated September 19, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 19, 2006

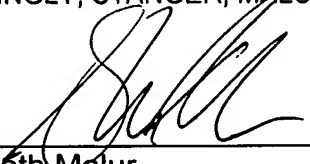
H-1125

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
Shrinath Malur
Reg. No. 34,663
(703) 684-1120